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Reading - Genesis ch 2 v 7-8, 16-17
ch 3 v 1-11, 17-21

It is tragic to be “Out of Christ without a Saviour”; all we can do is “Preach Christ” (2 Cor 4:5) and ask the question, “What think ye of Christ?” (Matt 22:42). It is a vitally important and personal question to each of us today. Like Paul, “We preach Christ crucified” (1 Cor 1:23), this message turned the Roman world upside down in that day and it does the same today. The Lord told the people of His day, “Search the Scriptures for in them ye think that ye have eternal life, but they are they that testify of Me” (John 5:39)

In 2010 men and women search for all kinds of things yet “they will not come to me that ye might have life” (John 5:40). The Scripture is clear: “Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures” (1 Cor 15:3)

There are abiding principles in Genesis chapter 3 still apply today.

1 - Fact of sin

It is a transgression of the law, rebelling against God's law and doing evil. We will be called to account like the woman: “What is this that thou hast done?” (Gen 3:13)

Sin is rampant in the world it is all over the news and papers but the sin in your life is personal, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Rom 3:23). There is sin in all our lives and everyone is flawed and fallen short of God's standard. God's standard is 100% - He is holy, sinless and just. He records in the books of heaven every aspect of our lives. If you refuse His son these books will be opened and you will be judged from them.

2 - Consequences of sin

Their eyes were opened and they saw that they were naked. This shows that their conscience was working (Gen 3:8). Sin is exposed - found out. Israel were warned, “Ye have sinned against the Lord..Be sure your sins will find you out” (Num 32:23). Hebrews 4:13 warns, “All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do”. There is nothing hid from God.

Shame - their eyes were opened and they were ashamed of themselves in the presence of God. They were afraid of God because He is holy and just, when He came to Adam he confessed and knew he was guilty. Sin results in judgment. “It is appointed unto man once to die but after this the judgment” (Heb 9:27)

3 - Attempts to cover sin

They realised something was not right so they sewed fig leaves together to try and hide themselves and cover their sin. Today men and women try many ways to get to heaven. Good works etc. It is the bad God sees and has to judge. No matter how good we are there is always our sin to deal with.

“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.” (Rev 21:27). Sin bans us from heaven. When Adam stood in the presence of God he admitted his fear and confessed his nakedness even though he was wearing his fig leaves.

4 - Remedy for sin

This is the good news of the bible. The Lords made coats of skin - God provided the remedy for them!

What can be done?

How can we be right with God?

Before we stand before God in the day of judgment and give account for the works we have done we need a remedy for our sin. God made them coats of skin to cover their nakedness. Today our sins can be covered and forgiven. "Come let us reason ... though your sins be a scarlet they shall be white as snow" (Isa 1:18). This is all of God. He has done all that is required - God sent His Son (1 John 4:9); the Lord Jesus Christ came from heaven to deal with the issue of sin (Gal 4:4); "But God commended His love towards us in while we were yet sinners Christ died for our sins" (Rom 5:8). God's answer was to send His son to pay the penalty for sin. He to earth to die on the cross. "He was wounded for our transgression and bruised for our iniquities" (Isa 53:5); "There is one God and one mediator between God and men" (1 Tim 2:5)

Sin is endemic, we all have sins. Sins will be punished and must be judged. The best we can do will never make amends. God sent His son, Christ died and gave Himself a ransom. God provided the skins but they had to put them on! God won't force the remedy. Salvation is freely available but we have to make our choice.